



THE AMAZING

SPIDER-MAN



#17

WWW.MARVEL.COM



MACKIE
BYRNE
GREEN

Handwritten signature and text:
MAS...

NEW YORK CITY
IN MARCH.

WINTER IS
ALMOST
GONE...

...BUT NOT
QUITE.

IT IS STILL COLD ENOUGH
TO CAUSE HYPOTHERMIA
IN THOSE WHO MAKE THE
STREETS THEIR HOME.

EVERY MINUTE IS A
STRUGGLE TO KEEP
WARM AND STAY ALIVE.

THIS IS THE
BOWERY.

THE MAGICAL NEVER NEVER LAND OF
THE HOMELESS AND THE HOPELESS.

A SOCIETY APART WHERE THE
STRUGGLE TO REMAIN ALIVE
IS ALL-CONSUMING.

HERE, IN THIS PLACE PILED
HIGH WITH TRASH, EMPTY
REFRIGERATOR BOXES,
SHOPPING CARTS, RAGS
AND FIRES...

...OUR STORY
BEGINS...

...WITH A SAND-
STORM IN
WINTER?

OR SO IT
SEEMS.

WHAT
THE --?

WHOA!
WE GOT
SOME SORTA
SAND THING
HAPPENIN'
HERE!

PHEW!
AND THAT
SMELL! LIKE
ROTTING MEAT!
THIS AINT
RIGHT.

AT A DEMONSTRATION ON RADIATION, HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT PETER PARKER WAS BITTEN BY AN IRRADIATED SPIDER FROM WHICH HE GAINED THE ARACHNID'S INCREDIBLE ABILITIES. WHEN A BURGLAR KILLED HIS BELOVED UNCLE BEN, A GRIEF-STRIKEN PETER VOWED TO USE HIS GREAT POWERS IN THE SERVICE OF HIS FELLOW MAN, BECAUSE HE LEARNED AN INVALUABLE LESSON: WITH GREAT POWER MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. STAN LEE PRESENTS:

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN!

DUST IN THE WIND

HIS NAME IS THE
SANDMAN!

AND RIGHT
NOW...
...HE'S DYING!

MYSTERIO!

IT'S
YOUR
FAULT THIS
HAPPENED
TO ME!

I'M
GOIN'
TO FIND
YOU...
...AND
MAKE YOU
PAY!

JOHN L. BYRNE
HOWARD MACKIE
story and art

Dan Green
inks

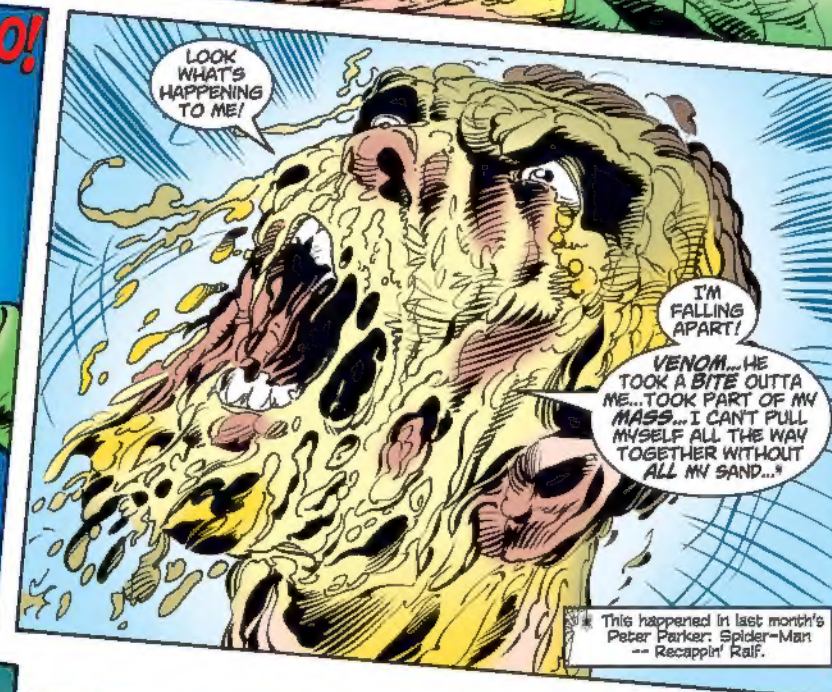
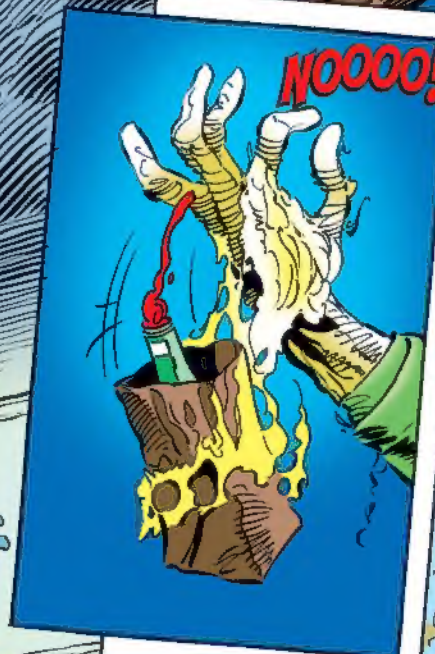
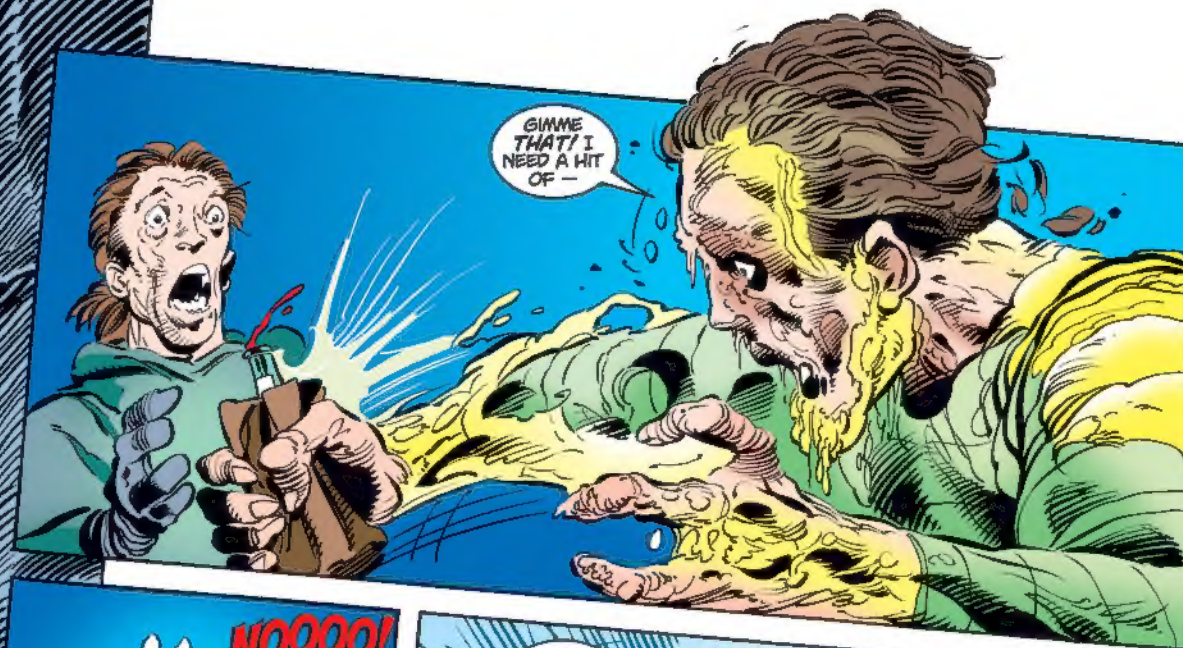
RS & COMICRAFT'S TROY PETERI
letters

Joe Rosas colors

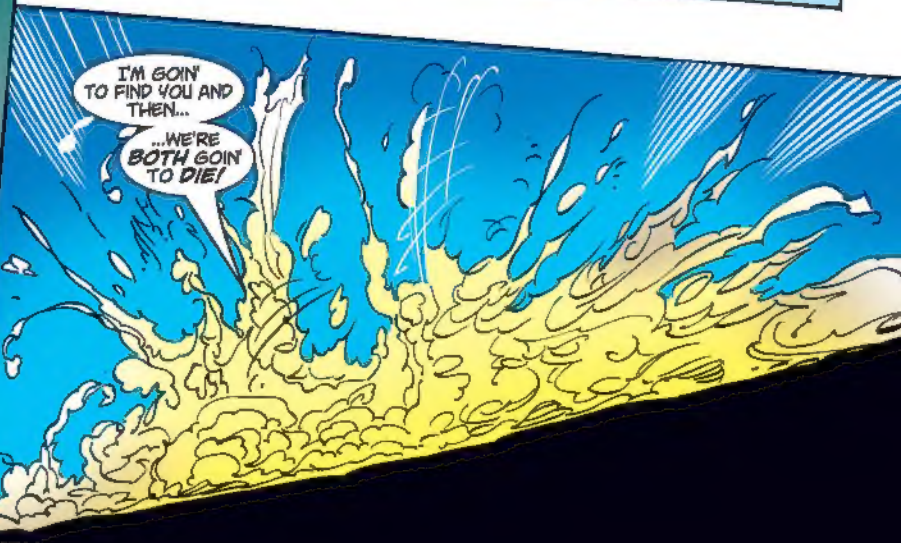
RALPH MACCHIO
editor

BOB HARRAS
chief

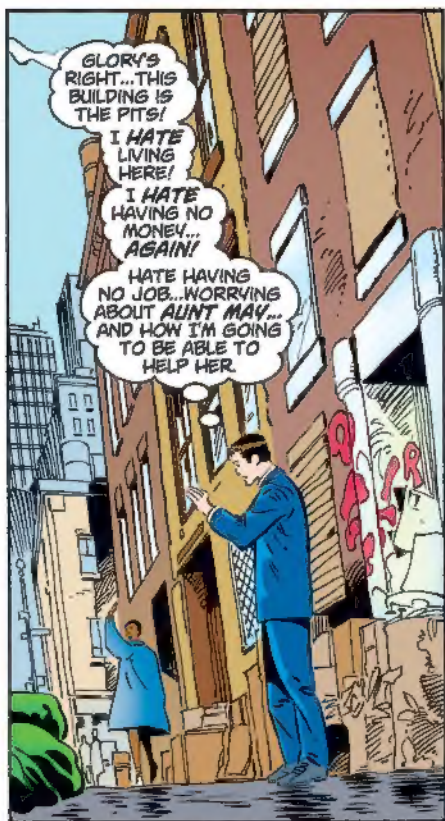
© 2013 Marvel Characters, Inc. All rights reserved. All characters featured in this issue and the distinctive names and likenesses thereof, and all related indicia are trademarks of Marvel Characters, Inc. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. WWW.MARVEL.COM



* This happened in last month's
Peter Parker: Spider-Man
— Recappin' Ralf.









HOW'D I GET TO THIS LOW POINT IN MY LIFE SO QUICKLY?

I KNOW MARY JANE'S DISAPPEARANCE IN THAT PLANE CRASH HAS TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY A SUPER-VILLAIN...AND I'M GOING TO FIGURE OUT WHO IT IS SOON, BUT...

...THE REST OF IT...

LOSING THE APARTMENT AND ALL OF OUR SAVINGS BECAUSE MARY JANE'S MONEY WAS MISHANDLED BY OUR ACCOUNTANT, LOST MY JOB AT TRICORP...

...IT'S ALL JUST LIFE.

GETTING MARY JANE BACK...THAT I'M SURE I CAN HANDLE ALONG WITH SAVING THE WORLD AND BATTLING EVERY SUPER-VILLAIN THAT CRAWLS OUT OF THE SHADOWS.

BUT THIS LIFE STUFF... IT'S HARD WORK.

WHO KNEW?

AAIEEE!

HELP. PLEASE.

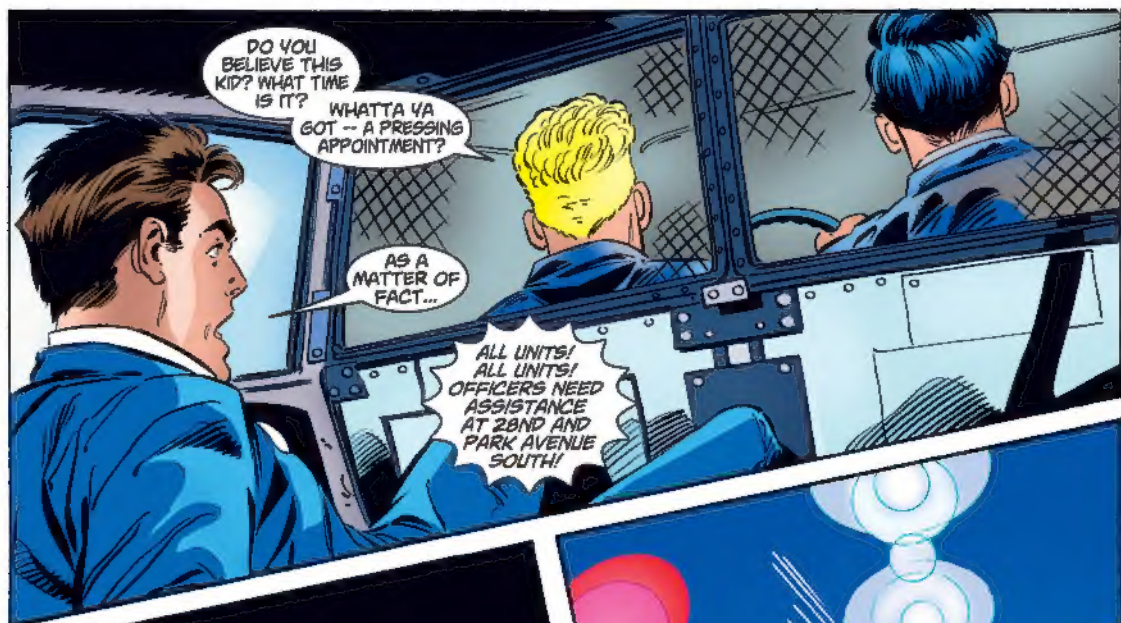
ER...NO... I'M SORRY...I CAN'T. I'VE GOT A JOB INTERVIEW AND...WHY DON'T YOU CALL 911 AND --

BABY... HELP... PLEASE?









I DON'T
NEED
THIS!

LEAVE ME
ALONE!

I JUST
WANT TO FIND
MYSTERIO
AND KILL
HIM!

PTOOM
PTOOM
PTOOM

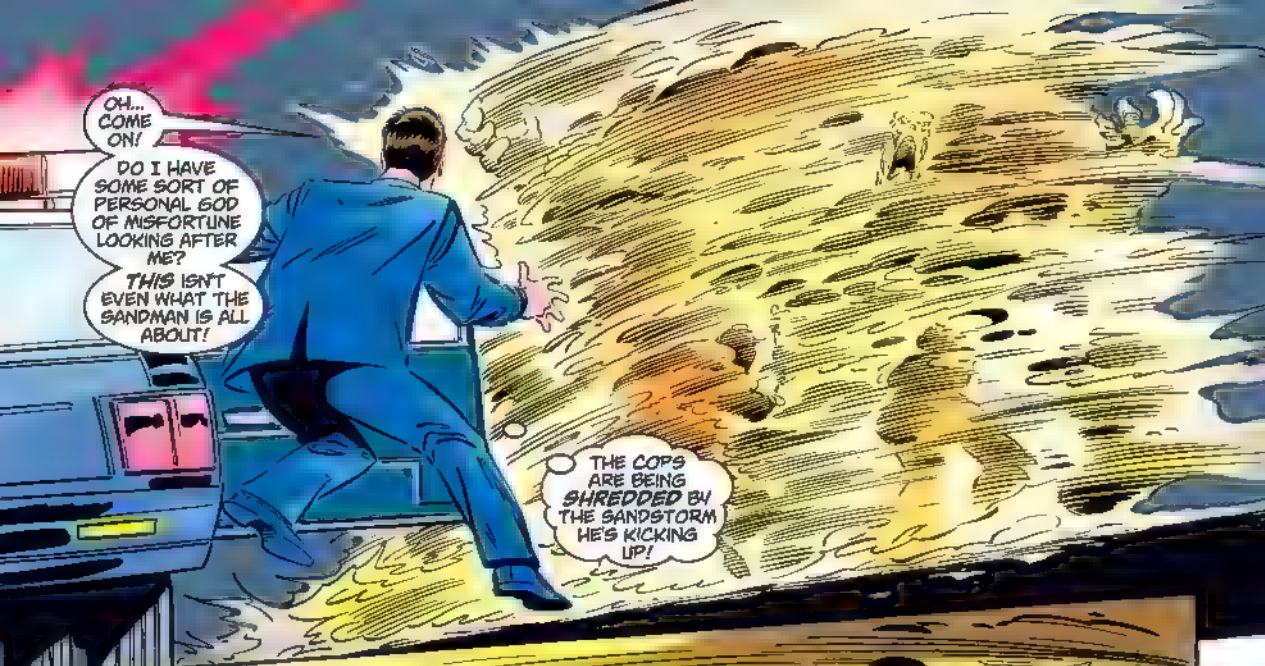
WE'VE GOT
TO DO SOMETHING!
THOSE GUYS ARE BEING
SLAUGHTERED
OUT THERE!

NO!
WHAT ARE
YOU DOING? YOU
CAN'T STOP HIM.
YOU WERE RIGHT!
YOU NEED BACKUP.
LOTS MORE
BACKUP!

CALL THE
AVENGERS OR
THE FANTASTIC
FOUR!

COME
ON! YOU GUYS
NEED HELP!
DON'T BE
STUPID!

SNAP



OH...
COME
ON!

DO I HAVE
SOME SORT OF
PERSONAL GOD
OF MISFORTUNE
LOOKING AFTER
ME?

THIS ISN'T
EVEN WHAT THE
SANDMAN IS ALL
ABOUT!

THE COPS
ARE BEING
SHREDDED BY
THE SANDSTORM
HE'S KICKING
UP!



I'VE
GOT TO --
GOT YOU!

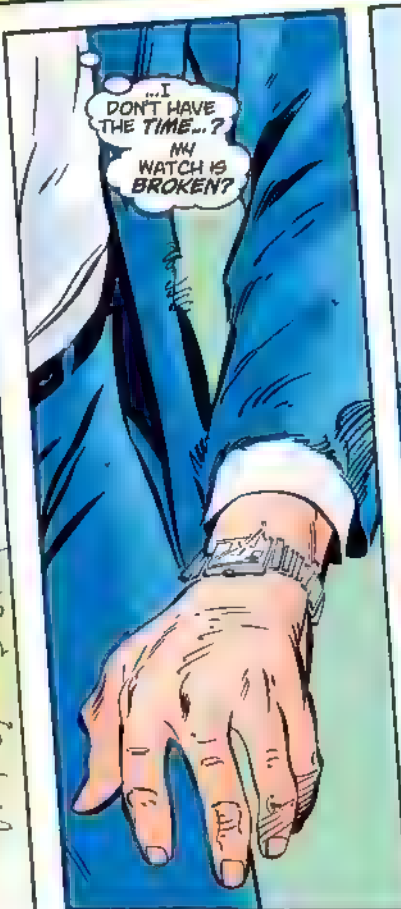


THEY'RE
HURTING
BAD.

THEY
NEED MAJOR
HELP...

...AS DOES
MY SUIT!

EVEN
IF I HAD
ANOTHER
SUIT...



...I
DON'T HAVE
THE TIME...?
MY
WATCH IS
BROKEN?

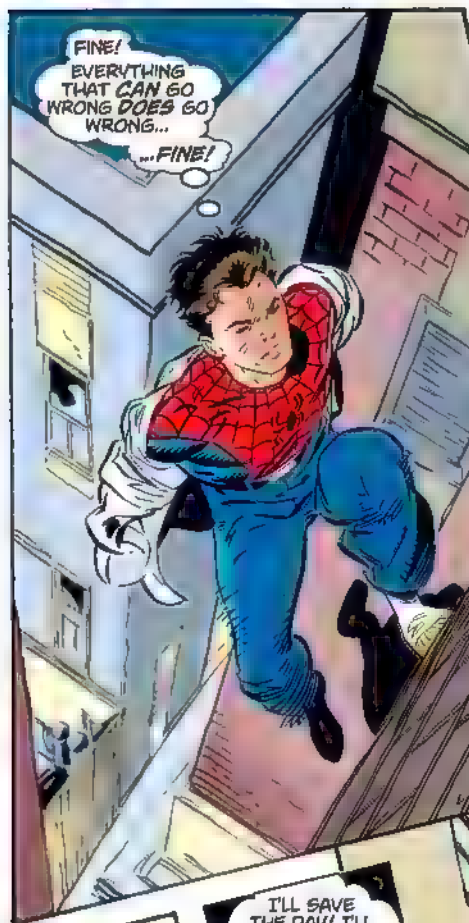


I DON'T
EVEN KNOW
HOW LATE I
AM FOR THE
INTERVIEW
AND...

...MARY
JANE GAVE
ME THAT
WATCH!

FINE!

FATE
CONSPIRES
AGAINST ME
TO MAKE SURE
I STAY BEATEN
DOWN!



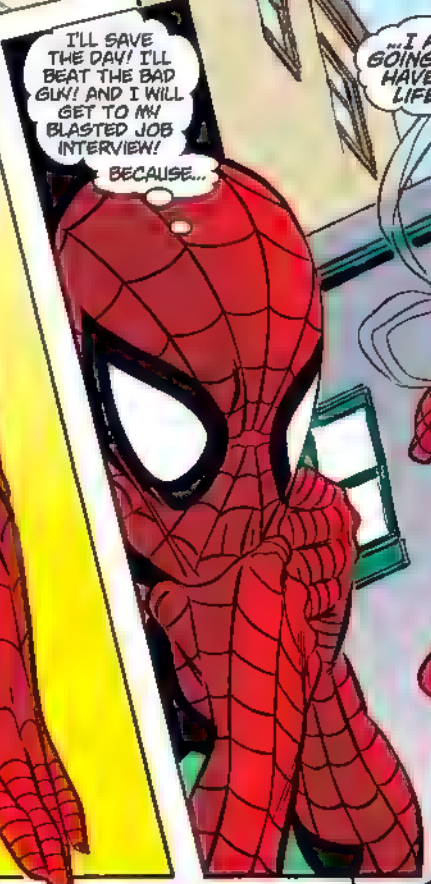
FINE!
EVERYTHING
THAT CAN GO
WRONG DOES GO
WRONG...
...FINE!



CHILDREN
IN TROUBLE,
DRUG BUSTS... THE
SANDMAN!



FINE! FINE!
FINE!
I'LL
HANDLE IT
ALL!



I'LL SAVE
THE DAY! I'LL
BEAT THE BAD
GUY! AND I WILL
GET TO MY
BLASTED JOB
INTERVIEW!
BECAUSE...



I AM
GOING TO
HAVE A
LIFE!



SANDMAN
SLITHERED DOWN THIS
WAY...IN THROUGH
THIS DOOR.

YEAH!
ANOTHER FIGHT
IN A WAREHOUSE!
NOW THAT'S MY
FORTE!

KRAK!

SANDMAN!
COME OUT
AND...

...PLAY?

ENTER A
WAREHOUSE
AND...

...AND COME
OUT ON TO A
POSTAPOCALYPTIC
VERSION OF
NEW YORK
CITY.

MAKES
SENSE.

YOU
THINK THIS
IS GOING
TO STOP
ME?

YOU
CAN'T HIDE
IN HERE!

I'M GOING
TO FIND YOU
AND MAKE YOU
PAY!

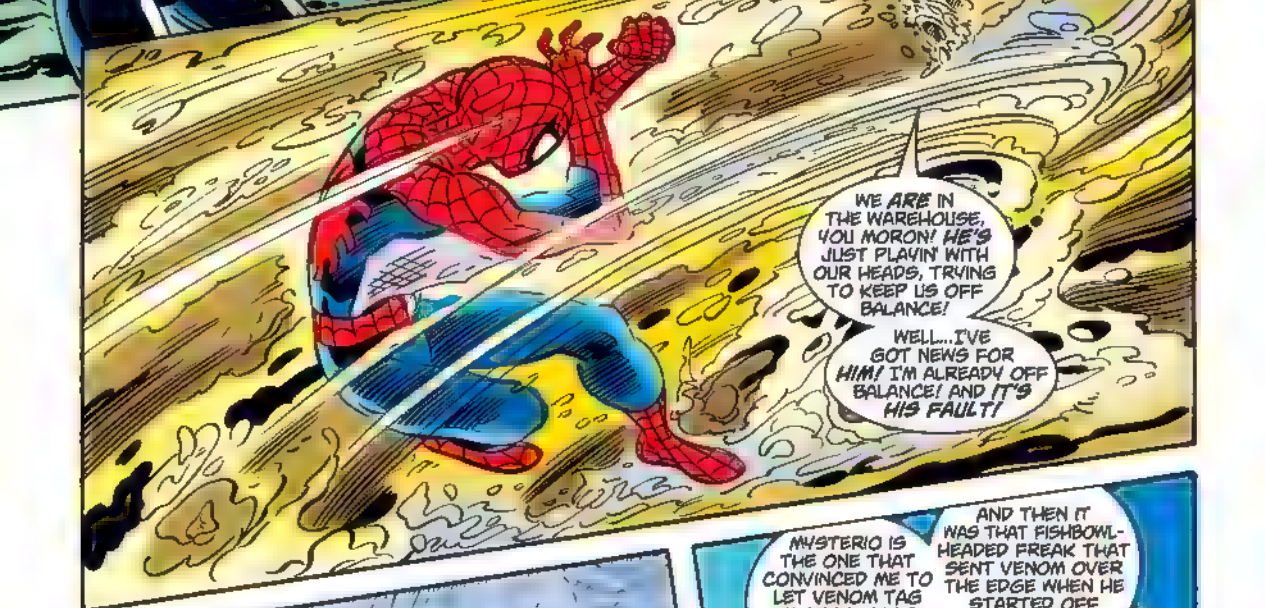


ER... EXCUSE ME, SANDMAN, BUT EXACTLY WHO ARE WE RANTING AT?

WHAT? SPIDER-MAN?

WELL, BACK OFF! THIS IS PARTIALLY YOUR FAULT, TOO! YOU SHOULD'VE STOPPED VENOM BEFORE HE DID THIS TO ME!

SORRY, BUT WHERE --



WE ARE IN THE WAREHOUSE, YOU MORON! HE'S JUST PLAYIN' WITH OUR HEADS, TRYING TO KEEP US OFF BALANCE!

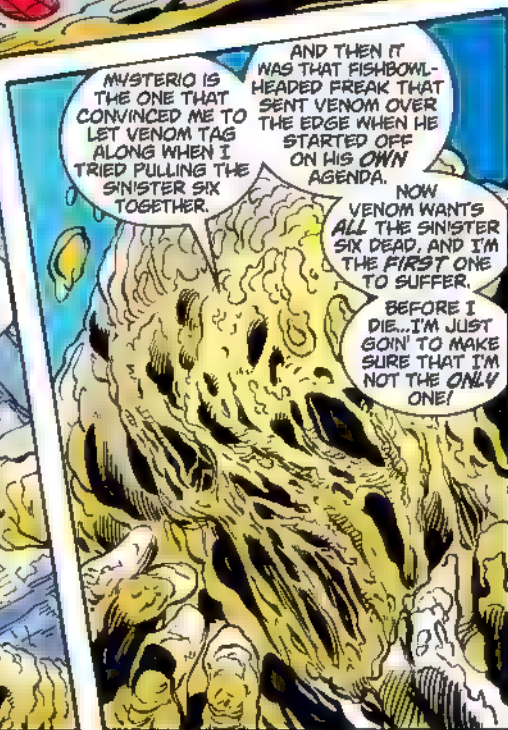
WELL...I'VE GOT NEWS FOR HIM! I'M ALREADY OFF BALANCE! AND IT'S HIS FAULT!



MYSTERIO!

WHAT A GENIUS! HOW DO YOU SURVIVE ON THE STREETS AGAINST THE LIKES OF US?

NO OFFENSE, BUT...YOU DON'T STRIKE ME AS THE SHARPEST CRAYON IN THE BOX!



MYSTERIO IS THE ONE THAT CONVINCED ME TO LET VENOM TAG ALONG WHEN I TRIED PULLING THE SINISTER SIX TOGETHER.

AND THEN IT WAS THAT FISHBOWL-HEADED FREAK THAT SENT VENOM OVER THE EDGE WHEN HE STARTED OFF ON HIS OWN AGENDA.

NOW VENOM WANTS ALL THE SINISTER SIX DEAD, AND I'M THE FIRST ONE TO SUFFER.

BEFORE I DIE...I'M JUST GOIN' TO MAKE SURE THAT I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE!



IN ANSWER TO YOUR QUESTION... JUST LUCKY, I GUESS.

WHAT?

YOU ASKED HOW I SURVIVE... NOT BEING A SHARP CRAYON AND ALL.

YEAH! WELL...YOUR LUCK HAS RUN OUT, BUG!

I'M MAD AND I'M HURTIN'!

AND I'VE GOT NO TIME TO WORRY ABOUT WHETHER YOU'RE GONNA TRY AND STOP ME FROM KILLING MYSTERIO. SO...

...SO, I'M JUST GOING TO KILL YOU FIRST!

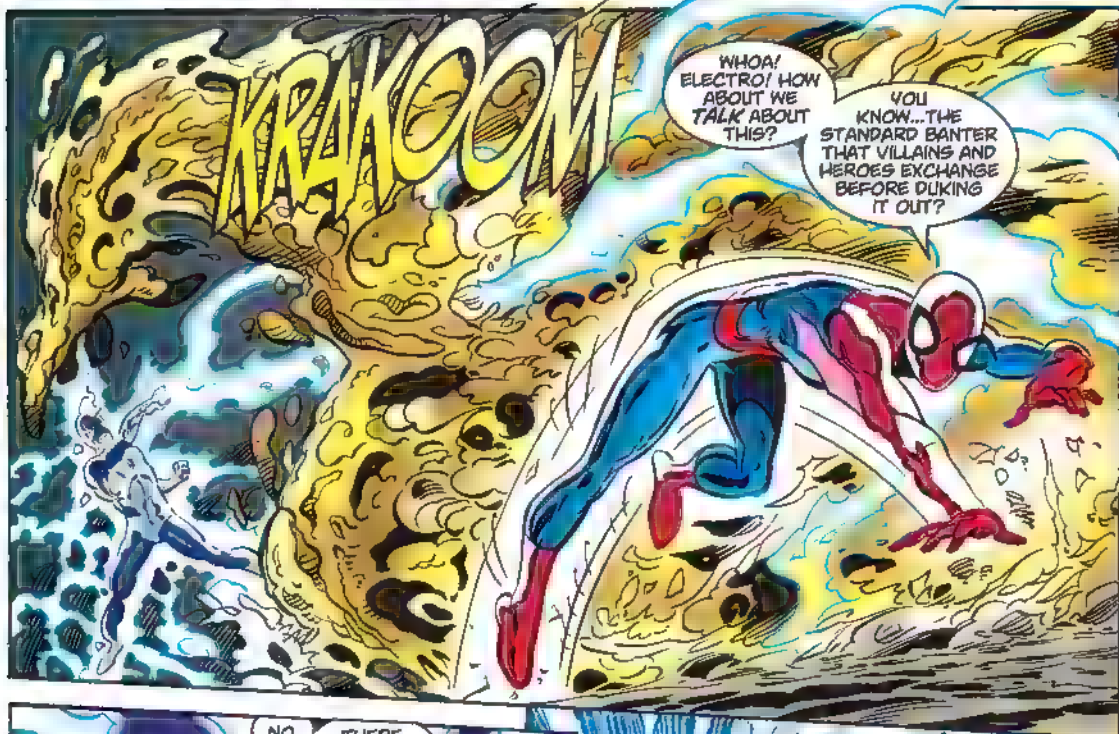


NOW THAT WAS NO STINKIN' ILLUSION!

NO. IT'S MYSTERIO'S WHIPPIN' DOG...

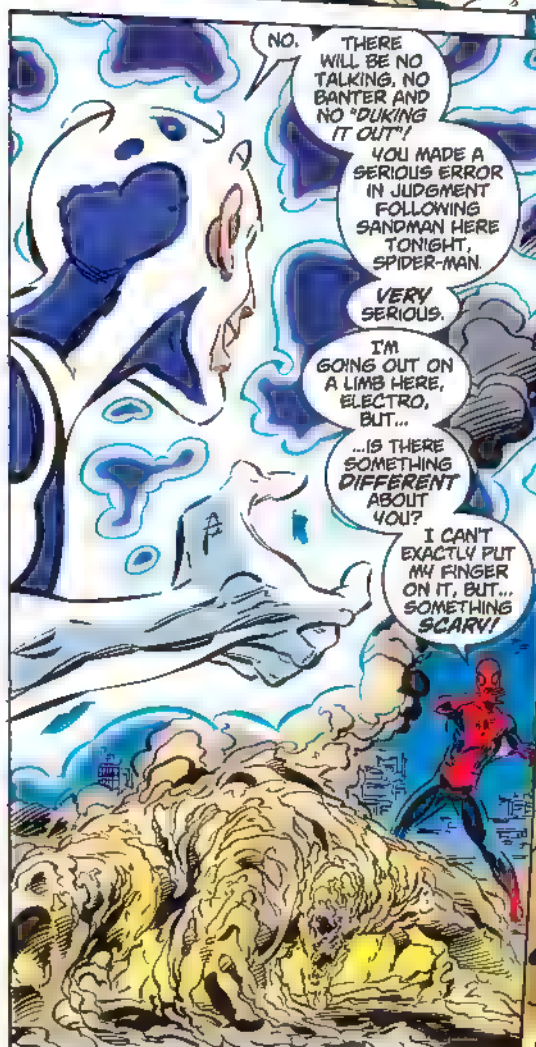


...ELECTRO!



WHOA!
ELECTRO! HOW
ABOUT WE
TALK ABOUT
THIS?

YOU
KNOW...THE
STANDARD BANTER
THAT VILLAINS AND
HEROES EXCHANGE
BEFORE DUKING
IT OUT?



NO.

THERE
WILL BE NO
TALKING, NO
BANTER AND
NO "DUKING
IT OUT!"

YOU MADE A
SERIOUS ERROR
IN JUDGMENT
FOLLOWING
SANDMAN HERE
TONIGHT, SPIDER-MAN

VERY
SERIOUS.

I'M
GOING OUT ON
A LIMB HERE,
ELECTRO,
BUT...

...IS THERE
SOMETHING
DIFFERENT
ABOUT
YOU?

I CAN'T
EXACTLY PUT
MY FINGER
ON IT, BUT...
SOMETHING
SCARY!



PLEASE.

DON'T
ATTEMPT TO
DISTRACT ME WITH
CONVERSATION.

IT IS
BENEATH
US ALL.

INDEED IT IS!



HELLO,
MYSTERIO!

HEY!
I'VE GOT
AN IDEA...

...HOW ABOUT
YOU PULL ONE OF
YOUR CLASSIC "FAKING
YOUR OWN DEATH"
SCENARIOS AND SANDMAN
AND I JUST WALK AWAY
CONFUSED?

ELECTRO...
...PLEASE
KILL THEM.

YOU
GUYS ARE
JUST NO FUN
ANMORE!

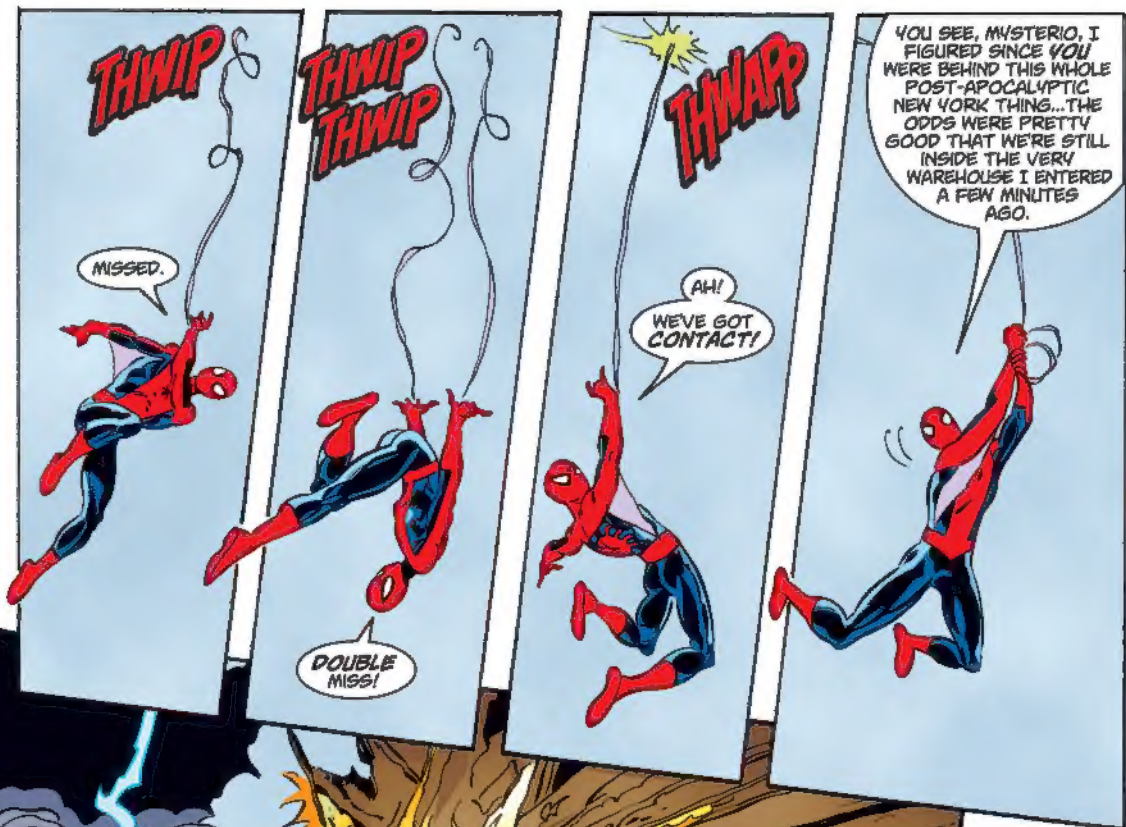
WITH
PLEASURE.

ALL
SERIOUS
AND "KILL
THIS, KILL
THAT"!

HOW'S
A GUY TO
PLAN A BATTLE
STRATEGY?

GOTTA
THINK! GOTTA
THINK! GOTTA
THINK!

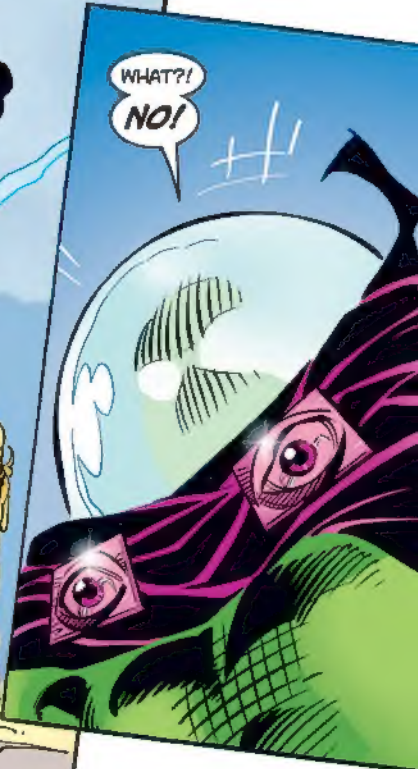
HMM!
MYSTERIO...
ILLUSIONARY
WORLD...
WORTH A
TRY...



YOU SEE, MYSTERIO, I FIGURED SINCE YOU WERE BEHIND THIS WHOLE POST-APOCALYPTIC NEW YORK THING...THE ODDS WERE PRETTY GOOD THAT WE'RE STILL INSIDE THE VERY WAREHOUSE I ENTERED A FEW MINUTES AGO.



WAREHOUSE EQUALS CEILING, SO...
...TIME TO BRING IT DOWN AROUND YOUR LITTLE FISHBOWL EARS!



WHAT?!
NO!



I JUST WANT YOU **BOTH** TO REMEMBER, WHEN YOU'RE PICKING SPLINTERS OUT OF YOUR BUTTS...

...I WAS WILLING TO **BANTER!**
COME ON, SANDMAN.

FRANKOON

YOU SHOULD LET ME DIE.

IT WOULD HAVE BEEN BETTER THAN LIVIN' LIKE **THIS!**

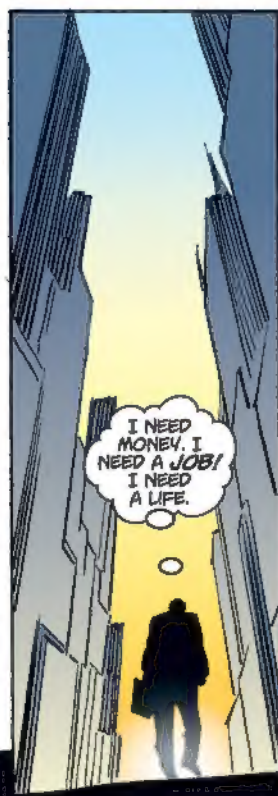
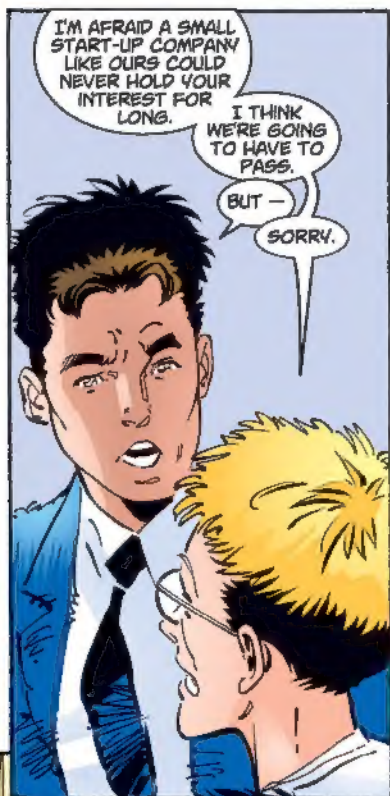
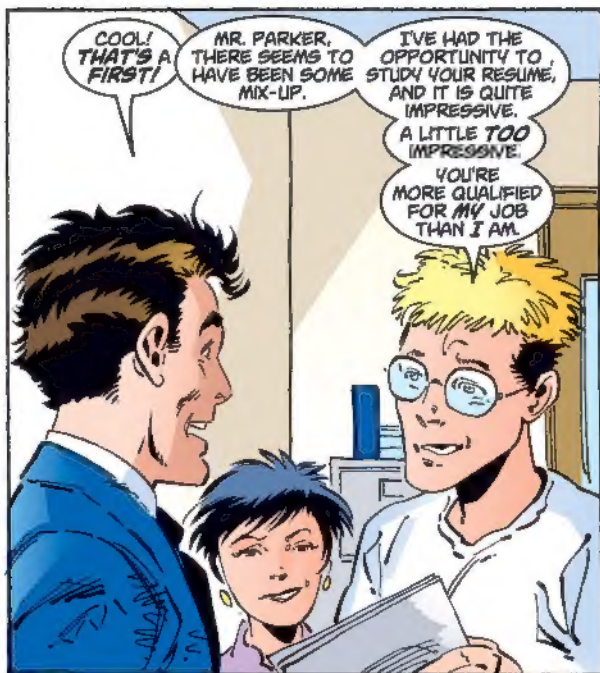
I'M A GOOD GUY. COULDN'T DO THAT.


NOW, IF YOU'LL EXCUSE ME...THE POLICE WILL HANDLE YOU FROM HERE...

...AND HOPEFULLY **THIS TIME** SOMEONE REMEMBERED TO CALL THE AVENGERS!

BUT I AM VERY LATE FOR AN APPOINTMENT.

I THINK.




THE END